

Remarks

Figure 4 supports new claims 59-74. Figure 4 shows an alignment of rat and human HCaRG. Regions of homology are indicated by shaded boxes that contain various numbers of contiguous amino acids (*e.g.*, 5, 6, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16, and 18). A disclosure of 5 contiguous amino acids inherently discloses 15 contiguous nucleotides because each amino acid is encoded by a codon that contains three nucleotides. Similarly, a disclosure of 6, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16, and 18 contiguous amino acids inherently discloses a nucleic acid of 18, 30, 33, 36, 29, 48, and 54 contiguous nucleotides, respectively.

Claim 11 is amended to recite that the purified nucleic acid is "a Hypertension-Related Calcium-Regulated molecule." Support for reciting Hypertension-Related Calcium-Regulated molecules of at least 12 nucleotides in length is found throughout the specification. See, *e.g.*, page 14, lines 1-3 (disclosing a 437-bp fragment of rat HCaRG); page 22, lines 6-7 (disclosing a 439-bp cDNA fragment of rat HCaRG); and Figure 4, as discussed above.

These amendments do not add new matter.

Respectfully submitted,
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